

Serial No. 08/842,827

Moreover, the Examiner has stated that she considers claims 1, 3, and 4 to be unpatentable over the suggested claim (new claim 14). Applicants, however, respectfully traverse this statement to the extent that applicants maintain that the inventive embodiments covering polynucleotides encoding the amino acids of SEQ ID NOS: 4, 6, and 8 are separately patentable from SEQ ID NO:2. Accordingly, applicants have amended claims 1 and 4 and added claims 15 and 16 to clarify that the inventive embodiments covering polynucleotides encoding the amino acids of SEQ ID NOS: 4, 6, and 8 are separately patentable from SEQ ID NO:2. Specifically, applicants have extracted these sequences from claims 1 and 4 and added them in new claims 15 and 16 in order to emphasize the separate patentability of these sequences.

Applicants respectfully request entry of these amendments as they were necessitated in order to comply with the Examiner's request to copy the suggested claim. Applicants submit that a full response to the other issues raised in the Office Action will follow in due course.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

R. J. Kamis
Ronald J. Kamis
Reg. No. 41,104

FOLEY & LARDNER
Suite 500
3000 K Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20007-5109
(202) 672-5300

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